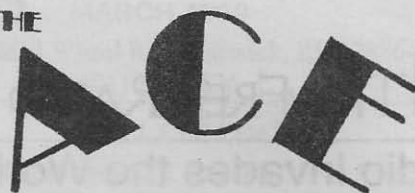


THE



NEWSLETTER

March 1999

Winterfest Special Edition

A.A.R.S.

ALL AZTECA RELAY SERVICE

Dear PAT MURPHY. I'm pleased to confirm that you heard the All Azteca Relay Service with a relay of *Radio Azteca*, live from the Winterfest in Kulpville, PA!

We were broadcasting from room 429 in the Holiday Inn using a 12 watt Grenade 40 AM transmitter, coupled to an MFJ-1621 indoor ham antenna. You heard us on a frequency of 6955 kHz at 0100-0338* UTC on the 16th of March 1996.

"AARS, ALL RADIO AZTECA, ALL THE TIME"

Pancho or Azteca?

Who will dominate Kulpville?

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DIALOGS MARCH 1999

Joe Filipkowski; 28 Mill Wheel Rd., Warwick, RI 02886-8453

JoeFLIPS@aol.com

(401) 736-8826

- LATE LOGS -

Blind Faith Radio: 1/17-1714-6955-USB. (SM,OK)
Radio Blandague: 1/16-0101-6955-USB. (LS,OH 252-3) (JS,NE 211/222)
Radio Bingo: 1/17-*0112-6955.2-USB. (SM,OK) (JS,NE 222)
Radio Doomsday: 1/17-*0118-6955-USB. (SM,OK)
Radio Gerbil: 1/17-*0051-6955.4-USB. (JS,NE 333 PLS QSL) (SM,OK)
Radio Inca: 1/17-*0021-6954.9-USB. (SM,OK)
Radio Tornado: 1/16-*2306-6954.9-USB. (SM,OK)
Radio Xanax: 1/19-0316-6955-USB. (SM,OK) (JM,PA)
WWRX: 1/16-*2326-6954.9-USB. (SM,OK)
 1/17-*0042-6954.9-USB. (SM,OK)
 1/18-2301-6955-USB. (CC,KY 444)

- FROM ACROSS THE POND -

Bandonica Radio-

Feb.14-0651-0712*-6275.2-AM. Pop mx, several English IDs, anned an address in Hoogeveen, Netherlands. (MP,NY poor to fair)

Dark Pampa Radio-

Feb.17-*0100-0130-6949.4-LSB. Relay via Radio Cochiguaz, pgm of Middle Eastern mx w/SS lyrics, echo IDs in SS & EG, skits/promotions in SS. (EK,Alberta 343)

Laser Hot Hits-Merlin, ONT

Jan.31-0754-6220-AM. Fade in w/"Duke Of Earl", jingle. (MP,NY fair)
 Feb.14-0803-6220-AM. (tent.) Tuned into a nice signal but not the usual mx. (MP,NY)
 Feb.14-0830-0840-6234.5-AM. Rock mx including The Doors, not // w/6220. (MP,NY fair)

Level One International-

Jan.24-0730-0800-6261.9-AM. Several English IDs @0730 into mx. (MP,NY fair to poor)

Radio Blue Star-Postbus 1104, 8001 BC Zwoije, Netherlands

Jan.31-0630-0745-6911.9-AM. (tent.) Mx:"Under Pressure", "Money For Nothing". (MP,NY weak)

Radio Cochiguaz-Casilla 2571, 1000 Buenos Aires, Argentina

Feb.17-0000-0130-6949.4-LSB. Sd "This is R.Cochiguaz brdcsting from somewhere in South America" which was repeated many times, relays of Radio Sin Fronteras & Dark Pampa Radio. (JR,VA)

Radio Sin Fronteras-

Feb.17-0026-0046*-6949.8-LSB. Relay via Radio Cochiguaz, lotsa nice ballads in SS several clear YL IDs. (EK,Alberta 434)

Radio Torenvalk-

Feb.14-0725-0750-6299.1-AM. Instrumental mx, clear EE ID, lost @0750 UTC. (MP,NY)

Shortwave Relay Service-Wuppertal, Germany

Feb.6-2157-2239+-7590-LSB. Oldies from the 60's including The Righteous Bros., theme from Flashdance. (GM,CT 151)

Feb.7-0350-0459+-7590-LSB. Mx by Nancy Sinatra, old Coke ad. (GM,CT 151)

UNID

Jan.24-0725-6269.6-AM. Mx & vx barely audible. (MP,NY)
Feb.14-0805-0830-6213.2-AM. EE accented OM mentioned the Fireside Hotel. (MP, NY poor)

- NORTH AMERICA - SHORTWAVE -

Blind Faith Radio-Merlin, ONT & blindfaithradio@yahoo.com

Jan.23-*1703-1734*-6955-USB. Dr.Napalm w/rock oldies including Steeley Dan. (GZ,OH 454)

He-Man Radio-Blue Ridge Summit, PA

Jan.31-*2301-2341*-6955-USB. On & off w/Monday Night Football mx & giving Super Bowl updates, He-Man sd don't give him a hard time or he'll sing the National Anthem. (SM,OK) (GZ,OH 353) (JC,ONT 433) (JS,NE)

Indira Calling-Providence, RI

Jan.30-0303-0325*-6954.8-USB. Several Indian mx selections. (MH,SC 141) (SM,OK) (GM,CT 141) (JS,NE 333)

Jan.30-*1936+-6954.9-USB. Replay of 1/30, 0303 UTC pgm. (JS,NE 322+)

Feb.6-2330-2349*-6955-USB. Replay of 1/30, 0303 UTC pgm. (JM,PA) (SM,OK) (GM,CT 343) (MH,SC 343) (JF,RI 343)

Feb.14-2336-2353-6955-USB. Replay of 1/30, 0303 UTC pgm. (CD,NC 544) (RC,MA 554) (NW,ONT good) (JS,NE 333)

KBILLY-QSL info unknown

Feb.7-1652-1702-6955-USB. Mumbling annr w/mx by Steelers Wheels, Harry Nillson & George Baker Selection, mx came from "Reservoir Dogs" movie, repeated ID several times. (NW,ONT fair to good)

Radio Atlantica-QSL info unknown

Feb.14-*2219-2231*-6955-USB. Mx by The Beatles, Frank Zappa. (CC,KY 443) (SM,OK PLS QSL)

Radio Azteca-Belfast, NY

Jan.30-*0022-0053*-6955-USB. Bram Stoker w/pgm #32, mailbag, Actual Stuff, gerbil stories, Top 10 James Bond DX Movies, QRT w/"never trust a dog to watch your food". (GM,CT 444) (MP,NY good) (GZ,OH 333-) (MH,SC 343) (JS,NE 433+)

Feb.1-0107-0124*-6954.9-USB. Pgm #32. (JS,NE 433+) (SM,OK) (LS,OH 252-1)

Feb.6-*2114-2145*-6954.9-USB. Pgm #32. (JM,PA) (NW,ONT very good) (JF,RI 444) (GM,CT 322) (WH,IL 254) (JS,NE 322+)

Radio Bingo- radiobingo@chek.com

Jan.24-*1734-1738*-6955-USB. Replay of the "orange card" game, won by John T. Arthur. (GZ,OH 454)

Feb.6-2200+-6955-USB. Orange card pgm. (NW,ONT good) (JM,PA PLS QSL) (WH,IL 254 as unid) (JS,NE 222)

Radio One-Belfast,NY

Jan.31-0005-0020-6949.9-AM. Annr Bobaloo w/oldies mx. (MH,SC 343/232)

Feb.1-*0102-0120-6950-AM. Oldies mx from 1962 & 1963. (JC,ONT 444) (LS,OH 252 as unid) (JM,PA)

Feb.15-0034+-6950-AM. Oldies mx. (CD,NC 555) (SM,OK)

Voice Of Prozac-Pittsburgh,PA

Feb.6-2205-2219-6955-AM. New stn w/YL annr, heavy metal mx, gave ID once, QRM from unid stn on 6955 USB. (WH,IL 254)

Feb.7-2007-2019-6955-AM. Various mx selections like "Give Me One Reason". (MH,SC 131)

Feb.7-2101-2135-6955-AM. Alternative mx w/YL annr, QRM from WPOE. (MH,SC 232) (WH,IL 233)

WMPR-QSL info unknown

Feb.15-0055-0135*-6955.4-AM. Techno dance mx, "WMPR Dance Party" IDs. (SM,OK PLS QSL) (JF,RI 444 PLS QSL) (NW,ONT good)

WPN-Huntsville, AL

Feb.15-0155-0223-6954.7-AM. Songs:"Afternoon Delight", "Don't Get Me Wrong". (SM,OK)

WPOE-Huntsville, AL

Feb.7-0137-0210*-6955.4v-AM. New stn formatted around the movie "Dr. Strangelove", Host Jack Ripper, Jr. w/mx by The Police, Van Halen, parody tune "Cat's In The Kettle", OM standup comedy, funny joke abt the "Girlfriend" computer pgm, ACE & FRN plugs. (MH,SC 343/131) (SM,OK)

Feb.7-2109-2143*-6955-AM. Replay of 2/7, 0137 UTC show. (MH,SC 433) (GM,CT 333) (WH,IL 122 as WTAE) (JF,RI 555)

WRX-PO Box 1464, Manomet, MA 02345

Jan.23-2123-2129+-6955-USB. Hendrix version of Star Spangled Banner, Jimmy The Weasel talking abt Radio Bob & "your momma". (JF,RI 242)

WRYT-Belfast, NY

Feb.12-*2219-2231*-6955-USB. Songs:"Hey Masturbator", "Grandma Got Run Over By A Reindeer", credit ad. (CC,KY 353)

Feb.12-*2328-2348*-6955-USB. Hugging & kissing sfx, QRT w/"I gotta run". (SM,OK)

WWRX "Jimmy The Weasel Parody Station"-anncd wwrx@hotmail.com

Jan.23-*2037-2053*-6955-USB. Collage of Jimmy The Weasel remarks mixed in w/ various soundbytes including Dr.Tornado, Alan Masyga, Three Stooges, WHYP, also ID as "Nonsense Radio Express". (CC,KY 352) (GZ,OH 454) (JF,RI 242)

Jan.23-2142-2148*-6955-USB. Replay of 1/23, 2037 UTC pgm. (JF,RI 2-342)

Jan.24-1848-1849*-6955-USB. Replay of 1/23, 2037 UTC pgm. (JF,RI 242)

Jan.24-2231-2246-6955-USB. Replay of 1/23, 2037 UTC pgm. (MH,SC 343) (JF,RI 343)

Jan.28-0002-0020-6955-USB. Replay of 1/23, 2037 UTC pgm. (SM,OK)

Jan.31-*2252-2300*-6955-USB. Replay 1/23, 2037 UTC pgm. (CC,KY 555) (JS,NE 444 PLS QSL)

Feb.6-2302+-6955-USB. Usual show w/sound effects. (GM,CT 343) (SM,OK)

Feb.7-1500-6955-USB. New pgm w/Jimmy ranting about Y2K, singing "Jimmy The Weasel Is Gonna Pee On The FCC". (NW,ONT good) (CC,KY 353) (JS,NE PLS QSL)

Feb.7-2030-2041-6955-USB. Replay of 2/7, 1500 UTC pgm. (MH,SC 343)
Feb.7-2309-2324*-6955-USB. Replay of 2/7, 1500 UTC pgm. (MH,SC 343) (JF,RI 444)
(CC,KY 453)
Feb.15-0000-0007-6955-USB. Replay of 2/7, 1500 UTC pgm. (CD,NC 444)

- UNIDENTIFIEDS -

Jan.31-0007-0055-6955-USB. Mx & annr saying "testing 1,2,3". (SM,OK PLS QSL)
(CC,KY 454) (JS,NE very strong)
Jan.31-*0325-0327*-6955-USB. Instrumental mx. (JC,ONT 333)
Jan.31-*1636-1644*-6955-USB. Steely Dan mx, off in mid-song. (CC,KY 555)
Jan.31-*1658-1706*-6950-?. Instrumental mx. (CC,KY 454)
Jan.31-*2144-2149*-6950-?. Oldies:"So In Love", "Hey Paula". (CC,KY 454)
Jan.31-2250+-6950-AM. Mx. (LS,OH 252-1)
Jan.31-2238-2242+-6955-AM. Mx & annr. (LS,OH 252-1)
Feb.1-0221-0228-6957-LSB or 6955-USB. 2-3 songs & annr but audio was poor, seemed
like stn was switching freqs. (LS,OH 252-1)
Feb.1-0450-0456-1710-AM. Mx:"Come Sail Away", "Carry On". (CC,KY 333)
Feb.6-2210-2214-6955-USB. Song "Power Of Love", rock mx, on top of VO Prozac.
(WH,IL 254)
Feb.7-1630+-6955-USB. Rock mx including "Titanium Expose" by Sonic Youth. (NW,ONT
excellent PLS QSL) (JS,NE PLS QSL)
Feb.7-1948-2005-6955-USB. Pgm of 60's songs like Ten Years After "I Love To Change
The World". (GM,CT 333 PLS QSL)
Feb.7-*2145-2154*-6955-USB. Hrd rock mx w/no ID. (SM,OK PLS QSL) (JF,RI 444)
Feb.7-*2206-2211*-6955-USB. Monty Python bits. (CC,KY 444 PLS QSL) (JS,NE PLS
QSL)
Feb.12-*2239-2256*-6955-USB. Mx by James Brown. (CC,KY 453 PLS QSL)
Feb.13-0605-0606*-6955-USB. Hrd song which was ending. (SM,OK PLS QSL)
Feb.13-*2321-2334*-6955-USB. Pink Floyd mx. (SM,OK PLS QSL)
Feb.14-1300-1321-6955-USB. Blues mx decicated to Jimmy The Weasel, sounded like Steve
Mann of R.Eclipse. (CC,KY) (WH,IL 254) (JS,NE PLS QSL)
Feb.14-2101-2113*-6955-USB. YL punk mx. (CC,KY 353)
Feb.14-*2121-2126*-6955-USB. Om & YL interview abt rock group's new album. (CC,KY)
Feb.14-*2136-2148*-6955-USB. Mx by Frank Zappa. (CC,KY) (WH,IL 254)
Feb.14-2200-2230-6955-USB. Mx by Rolling Stones, Frank Zappa. (WH,IL 254)
Feb.19-*0049-0058*-6955-USB. Mx by Iron Butterfly. (CC,KY 454)

- CONTRIBUTORS / PLEASE QSL ADDRESSES -

John Arthur, 7994 Rte.19, Belfast, NY 14711-8702 (JA)
Brandon Artman, 515 N.Maryland Ave., West Chester, PA 19380-2255 (BA)
Rainer Brandt, Wiesenweg 6, D-29361 Hoefer, Germany (RB)
Brett Brumley, PO Box 242, Vienna, IL 62995 (BB)
Jerry Coatsworth, RR #3, Merlin, Ontario N0P 1W0, Canada (JC)
Ross Comeau, 16 Linwood St., Andover, MA 01810 (RC)
Charles Crawford, 1763 Turnagain Dr., Henderson, KY 42420 (CC)
Elmer Cronkright, 3570 Oriole Ave.SW, Wyoming, MI 49509-3443 (EC)
Rich D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Dr., Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RD)
Paul Demsky, 883 Broadway #2, South Portland, ME 04106 (PD)
Chris DeSanctis, 189 Charles Dr., Winston-Salem, NC 27107 (CD)

Dave Ditlow, 10573 W.Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064-2348 (DD)
Joe Filipkowski, 28 Mill Wheel Rd., Warwick, RI 02886 (JF)
Bill Finn, 2905 Tyson Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19149 (BF)
Dave Fisher, 12 Dupont St.W #207, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 2X6, Canada (DF)
Michael Folk, 810 Dalewood Dr., Villa Hills, KY 41017 (MF)
Craig Harkins, RR #1, Hillsburgh, Ontario N0B 1Z0, Canada (CH)
William Hassig, 102 North Russel St., Mt.Prospect, IL 60056-2443 (WH)
Matt Haston, 22 Jamestowne Commons, Taylors, SC 29687 (MH)
Mark Humenyk, 26 Crestridge Heights Road, Weston, Ontario M9P 1A4, Canada (MH)
Ron Hunsicker, 1238 Cleveland Ave., Wyomissing, PA 19610 (RH)
Rich & T Jurens, 19107 Winding Trail, Katy, TX 77449 (RTJ)
David Krause, 36889 South Lakeshore Blvd., Eastlake, OH 44095 (DK)
Harald Kuhl, PO Box 110605, 35351 Giessen, Germany (HK)
Ed Kusalik, 2117-10 Street "A", Coaldale, Alberta T1M 1B6, Canada (EK)
Jeff Leach, 12923 Binney St., Omaha, NE 68164 (JL)
Chris Lobdell, PO Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL)
Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM)
Scott McArdle, 3500 S.Boulevard Suite 18C, Edmond, OK 73013 (SM)
John McWilliams, 5229 E.Trindle Rd.-2nd Floor, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (JM)
Greg Myers, PO Box 17186, Richmond, VA 23226 (GM)
Kevin Nauta, 1252 Ravanna SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508-2504 (KN)
Gary Neal, 7410 Orchard Hills Lane, Sugar Land, TX 77479-6122 (GN)
Benton Owsley, 8439 Boise St., Ventura, CA 93004 (BO)
Marina Pappas, 366 3rd St. SE, Huron, SD 57350 (MP)
Dick Pearce, PO Box 8162, Brattleboro, VT 05304-8162 (DP)
Ray Pfaff, 4333 Cub Run Rd., Chantilly, VA 22021 (RP)
Mike Prindle, Box 51, New Suffolk, NY 11956 (MP)
Ed Rausch, 17 Vanderberg Place, Cedar Grove, NJ 07009 (ER)
Jesse Rose, 100 Margaret Dr., Hampton, VA 23669 (JR)
Robert Ross, PO Box 1003 Stn.B, London, Ontario N6A 5K1, Canada (RR)
Chris Scott, 4051 Clifton Ave. #3, Cincinnati, OH 45220 (CS)
John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Ave., Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS)
Gary Seven, 675 86 Street Apt.A2, Brooklyn, NY 11228 (GS)
Lee Silvi, PO Box 982, Mentor, OH 44061 (LS)
Harry Smith, 3740 Bosart Rd., Springfield, OH 45503 (HS)
Chris Smolinski, 4708 Trail Court, Westminster, MD 21158 (CS)
Tony Straka, PO Box 3178, Maple Glen, PA 19002 (TS)
Kirk Trummel, Quebec, Canada (KT)
Niel Wolfish, 112-2177 Avenue Rd., Toronto, Ontario M5M 4B7, Canada (NW)
George Zeller, 3492 W.123rd St., Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ)

*** DX NEWS OF INTEREST ***

Deadline for April 1999 DiaLogs: March 20th

Veried Response

your center for QSL information and comment

John T. Arthur, proprietor 7994 Rte 19 Belfast NY 14711-8702

(716) 365-8870 (m.o.l.) not collect e-mail: cc732@freenet.buffalo.edu

with help from the VR Troopers and other good Friends. VR is electronically transmitted to A*C*E HDQ on or before the 20th of each month; please send your input and comments to the above address to arrive prior to the 15th. Your active participation in the form of input, reports, suggestions, and/or constructive criticism is solicited and welcomed. Unless otherwise attributed, opinions in VR are those of this mildly disturbed individual and should not be misinterpreted to represent The A*C*E as an organization, or any other sane person for that matter. Got a beef? Comments and complaints should be directed to this columnist in triplicate for round-filing - and NOT to any other address.

"Human nature is largely something that has to be overcome." -
- Rita Rudner

What's News the media report...

The Federal Communications Commission has closed down yet another micro-broadcaster, this one in Johnston, Rhode Island. Steven Conti was transmitting on 89.3 MHz using a call sign that was once assigned to Providence's original home of rock & roll: WICE.

Conti had everything for the station, except a license to broadcast. The FCC pointed out his oversight and told him to stop broadcasting. Said Conti, who works as the Traffic Troll for WHJY-FM, "It was pretty sad. We've been receiving a ton of phone calls from listeners." And another one bites the dust... [Providence Journal, 20 Jan 99, via Joe Filipkowski, with thanks to Jeff Ryan]

"Old age is an incurable disease." -- Seneca

TROLLing for Pirates

formerly: **OFF THE WALL** the rumor center...

ADD to Box 25302: Voice of Prozac...

ADD to Box 28413: Radio Jeopardy

Another new maildrop has appeared. Jimmy the Weasel, of WRX, has announced that Radio Bob will NOT handle his mail via the Lula (GA) Box, and instead is using: PO Box 1464, Manomet, MA 02345. Seems to be working, according to the QSL report this month...

Correction to something I wrote last month: The station running 24hpd on 6220 and before 2000 on 7415 is NOT Radio Ozone - it's Laser Hot Hits. Ozone has been trying new frequencies around 5770 and 7575 kHz lately, but cross-pond conditions haven't been very good so far this year...

"Man has his will - but woman has her way." -- Oliver Wendell Holmes

The Swappe Shoppe

buy, sell, trade announcements free to A*C*E members

Please be concise but complete: If you're looking for something, accurately describe what you want; if you're offering something for sale give make, model, honest condition, and asking price. Please help me keep these ads up to date! NO collect calls unless otherwise specified.

Wanted:

The Voice of Shortwave Radio is looking for someone to relay a Special program in the X-band; they'd love to have it relayed in the East, West and Central US, possibly simultaneously! Anyone in Europe able to do a relay or two? They're also looking for sources of jingles and promos, and does anyone have a source for "prank/crank" phone calls and/or commercials? Contact: Bubba at VoSWR, POB 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214.

Schematic, parts list and PCB artwork for 15 to 20 watt MW amplifier drivable by Panaxis or RFamey rigs. Contact: Dick Hertz at Z Radio via Box 1, Belfast.

Literature on transistor radios from the 1954-70 era, including sales brochures, manuals, catalogs, flyers, and magazine ads; anything related to transistor radios with or without pictures! Also interested in kits (Eico, Heath, Knight, etc). Some magazines of that era (Nat'l Geographic, Popular Electronics, etc) had lots of transistor ads. Do not need entire magazines, just the ads. Also looking for older, pocket-size radios, store displays, pamphlets, and other promotional items. Pls write to let me know what you have: Robert S. Ross VA3SW, Box 1003 Stn B, London, ONT N6A 5K1, Canada, or call (515) 685-1167.

For Sale:

If you do any electronic design or construction, you need the Electronix Workshop CD ROM. EW puts all the data, formulae, graphs and charts you'll ever need at your fingertips in an easy-to-use standardized format for WIN95 and NT. For complete details and price info, contact: Renaissance Radio, 501 N. Mosquito Lane, West Grove, PA 19390, or phone (610) 869-3964.

Heath HW101 xcvr, rebuilt by TRO, w/AC PS and mic: US\$140/OBO, you ship. Contact: Franz, N33015 Square Bluff Rd, Whitehall, WI 54773, or Email: <lbergman@win.bright.com>

Go mobile! RS 14Q-watt inverter (cat#22-132A) w/datasheet in good working condition: US\$50/OBO, shipped. Contact: jta.

35mmAA active antenna, super small, runs on 9V battery, great for limited space or apartment use: US\$15. Contact: Bud Stacey, POB 907, Satsuma, AL 36572. Be sure to state the connector required for your installation.

SHACK CLEANOUT! Everything *must* go by 31 March! Books about ham radio, SWling, CB Radio, scanners, and pirate radio, some radio equipment, and model train stuff. For a complete list, send a #10 (long) SASE to: Brandon Artman, 515 N. Maryland Ave, West Chester, PA 19380.

Micro'casting Gear For Sale:

15-20 watt FM amp with cooling fan - gives full power below 95 MHz but falls off some above - requires 2w drive and 10Amp power supply: US\$160 and shipping. Contact: jta.

"The hardest part of growing up is learning how to wait."-Leo Rosten

A further, more in-depth look at the Radio Shack DX-398, including some Mods and Enhancements

By Steve Mann of Radio Eclipse

Ed Note: The review and modifications presented here also apply to the Sangean ATS909 portable.

We are going to take a look at a few mods for the DX-398 including the chuff mute removal, freewheel tuning, and beep throttling modifications. These mods should only be done if you have some knowledge in taking radios apart and leaving them for another time.

To disassemble, remove the 5 screws on the back of the unit. One screw is behind the whip antenna, so just move that out of the way to get the screw and place the whip antenna back into the holding spot. Pull the knobs off, make sure nothing is plugged in to the unit, and remove the batteries, if any are used. Apply pressure to the two radio halves at the top and the bottom so that the tabs inside will unlock. As you apply pressure lift up and pull the back of the radio up and toward the top of the radio as you work pulling the bottom half away going left toward the volume knob. This is somewhat awkward but can be done right, if done slowly!

Now if you push in between the volume and tuning control with light pressure the left side should come loose at the next tab. Now push the back up toward the top of the radio. A tab in the top left should come free as well as a tab at the top right of the radio. The last tab is at the center of the external connections for power, headphone, rec, and antenna jacks and hinges at this plate. Now the back can be separated from the radio. Be careful with the white antenna wire that's connected to the back.

With the back off, look down on the left side of the board under the tuning control. Use a magnifier to locate from top to bottom, 234, 334, and 474 and 103 (the 474 and 103 are side by side). Directly below 474 and 103 is a "round" surface mount diode, orange with a black band at the top, soldered vertically on the board. Next to the diode to the right are two solder leads. The leads are between the diode and the single leg of a surface mount transistor. Carefully power up the radio with the external power supply and short the two leads with a screwdriver while pushing the up/down tuning buttons. If the mute goes away, you can solder the leads together.

This will eliminate the mute but the circuitry being bypassed detects if the phase lock loop becomes unlocked and mutes the audio and IF amps. While turning the power on, changing bands, or using the presets, you get bursts of RF as you exceed the slew rate of the loop until the loop relocks the variable oscillator to the reference.

Now for the manual tuning and beep mods. With the radio still disassembled carefully pull the radio assembly out of the front half of the radio by pulling up and out. Lay the front off to the side being careful with the speaker wires. With a small Phillips screwdriver, remove the two screws from the display board. Now there are 3 tabs on the bottom under the keypad and 2 tabs on top above the display. Carefully pull each tab back one at a time, lifting the board gently until it is free. The wires to the "beep" speaker are fine gauge red and black soldered to the display near the left side of the LCD. You can either snip the wires or take the speaker out completely. There are 6 solder pads on the tuning knob near the LCD display light and below the power button. Using a solder wick or some desoldering tool, remove all the solder from the 4 inside pads first. Then remove the solder from the outside two tabs with "ears". Once all the solder has been removed, the control can be removed from the board.

Once the tuning control is removed, with a flat blade screwdriver or small knife, carefully lift the 4 tabs on the back of the tuning control. Use a pair of needle nose pliers to straighten the tabs out. When taking the control apart, pay close attention to how it is assembled. Carefully remove the plastic control housing and post from the metal shell at the same time. Inside the metal shell with "ears" is a copper ring. Remove the copper ring after you study how it is assembled inside. The copper ring has 2 bends and a notch that sticks up on one side on the center of a bend. This with the plastic post is what causes the tuning knob to work in a clicking motion. Using needle nose pliers, gently flatten the notch that sticks up on one side of the ring with out smashing the curves of the ring flat. Then reassemble the control and try turning it in your hands. Make sure it works smooth before resoldering it to the board.

Once checking your work and perhaps have a friend look it over too, reassemble the unit. Don't forget to replace the 2 screws that hold the display board. Make sure all knobs and buttons work before you put the screws back in.

The mods worked great on mine. I can deal with some noise for a micro second while changing bands to be able to spin the dial with one finger without the mutes and beeps!

Thanks to Dave and RickW999 for the mods. Thanks goes out to Greg Majewski for his input. Thanks goes to Steve Mann for his review of the radio and available enhancements.

If you'd like to review a new (or even an old) radio and the modifications/enhancements for it, feel free to write up an article and mail or Email it to me. If necessary, I'll edit it a little to hopefully polish it up a bit and you'll see it right here in VR in a month or two. Maybe George Z would like to review the Icom R9000 or Watkins-Johnson HF1000?

"Always do what you are afraid to do." -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

here's a look at what was slipped

Under the door - the QSL report for March 1999

Tony "the Tumorless" Benbenek continues to celebrate his recuperation with a full data "skull & ship" sheet (#2) from WRX signed by Jimmy in six days.

Ross Comeau salivated over a very nice full data orange card from Shortwave Relay Service (Italy) via Wuppertal in 94 days, and a full data card that says 200 watts with many goodies and a newsletter from Laser Hot Hits in 10 months (3.5 months after follow-up rpt).

Charles Crawford is raving about a full data e-mail jpeg full data colorful QSL (#6) from WWRX for e-mail report, and a full data QSL card #00113 with confirmation letter and info sheet from Radio Strike (Sicily; via Andino Relay Svc) in 23 days for \$1 to Sicily address.

Joe Filipkowski dialogs about a full data "Farewell to PJ Sparx" sheet (#188) from Radio Garbanzo signed by Fearless Fred in 5 months, a full data "provisional QSL" sheet (#10) from Radio Bingo signed by Jimmy Kershaw in a few days, a full data e-mail QSL (#9) from WWRX signed by Jimmy Jr. in a few days, a full data sheet from Radio Inca signed by Jose Chirinos in 10 days, a full data card, infosheet & sticker from Yellow Submarine Radio (via SWRS) signed by Bungalow Bill in 35 days, a full data mini card from KBLK in 10 months, a full data mini card from WGTG in 11 months, and a full data sheet (#120) from Jerry Rigged Radio in 6 weeks.

Chris Lobdell is still smiling about a small full data card (#324) from WGTG (via Radio Eclipse) signed by Steve Mann in 11 months.

Greg Majewski was a bit puzzled by a full data color sheet with infosheet from Farmers From Holland in 145 days for follow-up which he mailed on the same day he received his

original QSL!

Scott McArdle rented a billboard to tell the world about a full data card and letter from RBCN signed by Bob in 10 days, a same-day email verification pending regular QSLs which are in the works from WIBG "Radio 99" for report to: DRobe38@aol.com, and a special "Farewell to PJ Sparx" full data sheet from Radio Garbanzo signed by FF in 111 days, an email QSL from WWRX in 4 days for ACE website logging, a QSL card and infosheet with letter from Night on Fire in 24 days, a large QSL card from WIBG "Radio 99" signed by Big Dan in 17 days for email report to: DRobe38@aol.com, a full data "Xmas 1998" sheet from Radio Eclipse in about a month, and a full data "Hotel JTA" sheet from Radio Eclipse in 241 days, both for email reports, a full data QSL sheet from Radio Inca in 123 days, a sheet from WRX in 21 days for report to Manomet drop, and a beaver shaped QSL postcard from Radio Beaver in 46 days for report to Merlin drop.

John McWilliams got nothing but net with a full data sheet from the Voice of Anarchy in 111 days, a full data sheet and paper license plate from KAT signed by Garfield Morris in 118 days, and a full data sheet from Radio Inca signed by Jose Chirinez in 137 days.

Ray Pfaff was sleepless in Virginia when he got a full data "banned LP cover" sheet from Blind Faith Radio signed by Dr Napalm in 6 weeks.

George Zeller phoned his ex-wife to tell her about a full data antenna on globe cd (#298) in 17d for rept to Lula. signed by RadioBob in 17 days, a full data color logo certificate (#7) from WWRX ("dogshit radio express") recvd via e-mail signed by Jimmy Jr in 6 days for report to wwrx@hotmail.com, a full data "Xmas 98" sheet (#312) from Radio Eclipse signed by Steve Mann in 32 days, a full data "map of South America" card from Radio Cochiguaz signed by Cachito Mamani in 62 days for f/up report to the Chile PO Box.

Ye Olde Columniste scored a quick e-mail (.jpg file) QSL (#2) from WWRX signed by Jimmy Jr in less than a day, a full data "Xmas 1998" sheet (#301) from Radio Eclipse signed by Steve in about a month, and a full data full color "a sista's work ain't never done!!" card (#319) from KBLK in about nine months.

'zit for this month. Best DX and 73 to all...

SIG file tagline of the month:

"To err is human; to moo bovine."

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

George Zeller 3492 West 123rd St. Cleveland, OH 44111-3553

georgez@acclink.com

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@acclink.com address.

VOZ DE LA RESISTENCIA

One of the last Western Hemisphere pure clandestines that still is on the air, *Voz de la Resistencia*, remains a target of interest for us. Operated by FARC (Fuerzas Armadas de Colombia), the largest rebel group still active in Colombia, the station has proven to be much more elusive than the formerly easily heard Radio Patria Libre. From time to time we have seen a handful of loggings of this one. In *Clandestine Radio Watch* #22, Martin Schoech notes that Mark Mohrmann in Vermont had a tentative log of the station on 6239.8 kHz between 1103-1115 UTC on January 8. The handful of Resistencia logs are always noted around local sunrise or sunset on this frequency. We have not been deluged by a flood of such logs from ACE members; the station is a tough DX catch.

If you hear them, how do you get in touch with FARC for purposes of reception reports? The station has been among those clandestines that has not been sending out literature and/or QSL's to DXers. However, we now have an interesting new lead on a potential means to get in touch with the Colombian FARC rebels.

In *Numero Uno* #1515, Henrik Klemetz (in Sweden at the moment) notes that there is a new rumored address for the station via Comision Internacional, Apartado Postal 27552, C.P. 06761, Mexico D.F., Mexico. This address is untested, but a promising unverified address is better than none at all.

Henrik also notes that the FARC-EP has a new web site. The URL of <http://www.contrast.org/mirrors/farc/> takes you to a very interesting web page. Much of it is in Spanish, but many portions of the site are translated into English. Among the items on this site is an e-mail address that might prove more useful than the formerly rumored elbarcino@laneta.apc.org address, which has not panned out. The new one worth trying is farc-ep@comision.internacional.org via e-mail. It's hard to say if any sort of response would come back from this e-mail address, or from the postal address in Mexico City for that matter. But, if you have old Resistencia loggings, these communication vehicles are worth a try.

The FARC web site is interesting. It's divided into sections including an editorial, letters and documents, human rights, politics, issues of debate, the economy, our (FARC's) history, culture, and "our pinions" (sic). The "our pinions" section currently includes an interview with Raul Reyes, member of the FARC-EP Central Command. Slogans at the bottom of the page include, "Against Imperialism...for our Country," "Against the Oligarchy...for our People," and "Until the Victory...We are the FARC-EP."

It also would be a good idea to check out the station in the near future. The times around 1100 and 2200 when the station has been audible will no longer be in our greyline before long, or even in a darkness path, as daylight hours lengthen for spring and summer. So far this station has been exclusively wintertime DX. As always, your logs and other information about this station will be very welcome here at *The ACE*.

RADIO MARTI RATINGS WAY DOWN IN CUBA

Armando F. Mastrapa, operator of the fine Clandestine Radio: An Anti-Castro Historiography web site at the <http://polisci.home.mindspring.com/ach.html> URL, sends in a very interesting item on listenership of Radio Marti within Cuba. Armando points out that in 1995, a survey claimed that "75% of the Cuban populace listened to Radio Marti." (http://polisci.home.mindspring.com/crisis_at_radio_marti.html has more information on this 1995 survey). He notes the following fresh news item, credited to <http://www.elpais.es/p/d/19990208/internac/marti/htm> as a URL at Malas ondas en Radio Marti:

"A survey carried out by the US Department of State in September 1998 of the Cuban populace indicates that Radio Marti is at its lowest point of listeners since it first broadcast in 1985. The poll was conducted without the permission of the Cuban government and its result indicates that only 9% of Cubans listen to Radio Marti."

You might want to take a look at the web site material on this story, where you can judge things for yourself. It's notoriously difficult to measure audiences for international broadcasting in situations like this. I can recall several conversations with Kim Andrew Elliott of the Voice of America about the issue of audience measurement, which Kim has a great deal of experience in. But, given the internal trouble at Radio Marti for years, as well as this fresh rumor of low listenership, one might question the wisdom of your tax dollars at work in an effort like this. In the judgment of your editor, the existence of Radio Marti has a lot more to do with domestic and USA Presidential politics in Florida than it does with any diplomatic or broadcasting mandate.

CUBA MEGALINKS CENTER

If you have trouble finding some of the web sites associated with Radio Marti, a good place to go is <http://www.laker.net/nike/megalinks.html> at Maximo Thomas' Cuba Megalinks Center. Maximo sends in his latest list of updates to this service, and the Crisis at Radio Marti page is number one on his list. Most of these links lead to sites in Spanish, but there is some English language material scattered here and there. I know that I'm getting like a broken record mentioning the site continually, but Maximo is doing a good job with this material. And, as we know, most of the quasi-clandestine radio activity that remains on the air in North America is still associated with Cuba.

RECLAIMING THE AIRWAVES

Bud Stacey may cover this item in Microcasting, but it is of sufficient widespread interest that I'll also mention it here. Some ACE members will recall Paul Griffin's *Reclaiming the Airwaves* newsletter, which was loosely associated with FM pirate Radio Free Berkeley. Paul says that he is pleased to announce that this newsletter is returning to active publication. Paul says that he's extremely interested in input from micropirate stations, including information about how things are going at their station, as well as their ideas on community radio "and how to make it stronger." The revived newsletter is being jointly produced by Radio Free Berkeley and the National Lawyers Guild Center for Democratic Communications. If you have contributions for Paul, or if you need more information on the project, ampb@california.com is his e-mail address.

CHIAPAS?

In *Clandestine Radio Watch* #23, Martin Schoech notes an item from Glenn Hauser about a potential new Chiapas-based clandestine in Mexico. Except for La Voz de Chiapas Libre, the station that issued more stamps than it recorded programs, there has been a severe shortage of radio voices for the Chiapas rebels. Glenn says that the station mentioned in a *Wired* article apparently turned out to be a one-shot operation.

Check <http://www.wired.com/news/news/email/member/technology/story/17633.html> for the article on radio being produced by the Zapatistas rebels in Chiapas (the FZLN) as it appeared in *Wired*. The article also lists <http://www.ezln.org/> as the main web site in use by the group. Christopher Jones' *Wired* article indicates that the Zapatistas have a weekly shortwave program called "Chiapas the World Speaks," produced by Atlanta-based NPC Information Associates and Radio for Peace International in Costa Rica. But, Hauser indicates that RFPI informs him that after producing one show, the station apparently disappeared.

By the way, as we frequently mention, material from *Clandestine Radio Watch* is archived and maintained in the main database of Nick Grace's Clandestine Radio Intel web site. If you don't have <http://www.qsl.net/yb0rmi/cland.htm> in your bookmarks, you're missing the most thorough source of clandestine radio information that we've ever seen in the history of the shortwave radio hobby.

KOSOVO

As I write this column, the hottest political story in the world is the conflict between the Yugoslavian government and ethnic Albanian rebels in Kosovo. There is a real possibility of increased armed conflict involving western countries, unless peace talks progress more than they have at column deadline time.

Clandestine Radio Watch #23 cites BBC Radio Four with a news item about Radio Free Kosova, which apparently was active when a BBC reporter visited it February 1. It claims to cover 90% of Kosovo territory with its 30 minute broadcast each day. The BBC did not reveal a frequency for the station, which likely is a local FM or medium wave operation. They did say that the station has "simple equipment" including old egg boxes that have been drafted on the walls for acoustics. The spelling of "Kosova" is apparently a local usage.

With events moving quickly in what is becoming a major military crisis potentially involving the United States, it will be a good idea for us to keep our eyes open on Kosovo as a potential clandestine target.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Another very interesting item in the most recent #23 of *Clandestine Radio Watch* discussed a new clandestine in Papua New Guinea called **Radio Independence**. In DXW 150, a DXer named Norrie noted that this station signed on at 0900 UTC on January 18 using 3850 kHz. This probably will be a very tough catch in North America, but it's not totally out of the question from a propagation standpoint during the winter. The format is rock music, with some reggae mixed in, so the political message appears to be a relatively soft sell. This is supposedly the radio voice of the interim Meekamui government in Bougainville, with another station on 3885 kHz under the auspices of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army and the government under an ID of Radio Paru Paru. All of these signals have to contend with 80 meter ham QRM, but it's worth a try if you are up at this early hour of the morning in North America.

DICK PEARCE UNIDENTIFIED STRANGE LONGWAVE STATION

Last month we mentioned that Dick Pearce of Vermont said that he heard a Spanish language broadcast on the highly unusual frequency of 495 kHz between the longwave and medium wave bands. On several January nights he noted it around 0800-0900+ UTC with programming that sounded like a clandestine. Obviously this was an odd one, and Dick asked if anybody else was hearing something like this.

Dick sent in a tape of the show. Parts of this tape have a reasonably good signal. It definitely is an excited male announcer discussing political matters before a crowd that shouts approval from time to time. On the other hand, I heard mentions in Spanish of Jesus Christ a couple of times on the tape. So, it's hard to tell what this tape is all about. We have some Spanish speaking employees down at work, so I'll try and get a chance eventually to have them listen to it and perhaps decipher the general program content. Parts of the tape have a good enough signal that non-DXers could make out the conversation. Dick says that the tape is from the first day that he heard the station. He then says that, "The next night it was about half strength, the third just a het and then nothing since."

There are a couple of clear mentions of Venezuela on the tape, but no ID that I could hear. All of Dick's tape is not the politician (or preacher) speaking in front of a responsive live audience. There also is some music in the style of northern South America. It is possible that Dick was hearing a sub-harmonic of Radio Tropical on 990 kHz in Caracas, but lacking an ID, I can't confirm this for sure. I never heard anything on this channel despite some checking from time to time, and I haven't seen any loggings of this phenomenon from anybody in addition to Dick. In any event, this certainly was an unusual reception of some sort. Dick says that we certainly can discuss the log at the Winter SWL Festival in Kulpville, which is coming up very shortly.

LIANGAS HEARS VOICE OF PALESTINE

We had no clandestine logs this month from Zacharias Liangas of Greece, who checked in to say that he'd been under the weather lately, although he's feeling better now. But, in *Clandestine Radio Watch* #22, Zacharias noted that he heard the Voice of Palestine in Arabic at 1830 UTC on parallel frequencies of 9695, 6145, and 6035 kHz January 3. The 31 meter frequency might have a chance to North America at this time of year. Is anybody else hearing this one?

THANKS!

This month we thank the following DXers who sent in material direct to this column: Martin Schoech (Germany), Armando Mastrapa (Florida), Paul Griffin (California), Maximo Thomas (Florida), Dick Pearce (Vermont), Zacharias Liangas (Italy), and George Zeller (Ohio). Next month we all hope to hear from **YOU** by March 20 for the April ACE Clandestine Profile.

Micro 'casting

Bud Stacey, P.O. Box 907, Satsuma, AL 36572-0907

salstacey@aol.com

The sole purpose of this column is to enlighten & educate ACE members about the many facets of Part 15 and micro radio- this is YOUR column! Please send all newspaper clippings, tapes, station profiles and what-have-you to the mailing address or e-mail address above.

Hiya! Is March coming in like a lion where you are? Make sure your guy wires are properly holding your tower or pole so your listening pleasure won't be interrupted! here in the Sunny South, the weather can change at any minute-in fact, winter has been more spring-like than spring! As we say here in Mobile, "If you don't like the weather, wait a few minutes!"

TECH TIP From "The Dude" of AM 600 and other stations comes a tip that I had lost and then remembered- in fact, this may have been printed a few years ago! Those who use Ramsey FM transmitters probably experience "chirps" from high freqs and "crashes" from low freqs, making transmitted audio of poor quality. "The Dude" used a graphic equalizer before the transmitter, after the mixer and cut the extreme highs & lows to squash the offending freqs and tailor a better overall frequency response. The resulting curve would look like a frown with the upper & lower ends extremely down. Seven to 10-band EQ's come in either AC or DC power; the model you choose MUST have line-level outputs or you'll fry your transmitter! Radio Shack used to carry several models, but, true to their "almighty dollar" tradition, only offer one AC and two DC models- one of the latter which can only be used for our application- at too-high prices. Other places, both store-front & mail-order, can offer better prices-- shop wisely (I got my 7-band passive EQ at a hamfest for \$1- I just had to add a power & ground wire!).

A tip on how to adjust power output of some transmitters: one op has an FMX with a BGY33-based amplifier, running 25 watts; he wanted to drop the output to 15 watts. The solution was to run it with a regulated CB-type power supply, most have a variable resistor on the PC board to adjust output voltage. Some power supplies run 13.8 to 14.5 volts; adjusting the resistor for 12 volts will lessen the power. If you raise the voltage, BE CAREFUL not to exceed 15 or 16 volts as something could burn out in your transmitter!!!! And blow your investment in freedom....

STATION PROFILE From ACE member Ross Comeau comes news of a 99-watt religious broadcaster that broadcasts from the second floor of the building he works in! He didn't know of the station until he read an article in the Lawrence, MA Eagle-Tribune- he also states that he lives in Andover, just south of Lawrence and that their signal is strong & clear at his QTH. Just goes to show, ya never know what might be going on around you! The station, "Inspiration", is run by Rev. Jose A. Santos Jr., who has no license yet, but claims immunity from the law due to being under the FCC's 100 watt limit. He has also retained a lawyer and is taking the proper steps to register for a license. Seemingly for the protection of others, he will not release the names of anyone aiding or assisting him in any way. Unfortunately, there are

those of the same religious stripe who, for some reason, are not "for" Rev. Santos, saying he'll "be judged" for breaking any laws, etc. He says, "People may resent the fact that I've got an FM (station) with real good sound", which is not surprising, since many LPFM ops tend NOT to be over-driven and splattery like commercial stations! And even though some other broadcasters and religious leaders are speaking out against his station, Rev. Santos feels he's doing the "right thing" in serving his community; Santos mentioned, "We're only promoting what's good and positive for the youth" when misleading youths was mentioned by another religious leader. And why, when a station is doing GOOD for a community, is it razed by the FCC and made an example of? My intention is to alert Rev. Santos of the Radio Free Vermont victory over the FCC so that he won't be unnecessarily raided....Thank you, Ross for sharing this information!

MICRO NEWS More news of shut-down stations...but before that, in some cases, I wonder sometimes how much of the info I glean from newsgroups are totally true? D'Z NUTTS (91.3) says it was shut down 23 Jan 99 in Petaluma, CA by the FCC. Even though they were shut down at that location, they say they've been touring the San Francisco Bay area with just under 40 watts. DJRan concluded by saying he didn't know the FCC drove Explorers....By the way, a mobile set-up is something I'd like to touch on later....

And from Ron in Howell, MI via YaesuTom: "Sometime today (Feb 5, '99) the Feds came & broke into my house and took the station. We almost made it 3 years. Estimated cost of the station was \$2500. Also taken was \$2000 of test equipment from my repair shop. It seems the FCC has been sitting on this warrant since Nov. 6, '98. Three complaints were filed with the FCC, all from a Gregory Jablonski...I believe he's the owner of WHMI 93.5 in Howell." Which is all fitting and well- the "big boys" are afraid a little guy is going to take away too many advertising dollars due to better, local programming. At this time, I'm waiting on more information as to the "breaking & entering" of the FCC...click yer heels & give the Nazi salute as they parade by in their Explorers!

Good news from Montrose Radio: still going strong! If you're inside the Loop in Houston, listen to 94.9 and support a real community station! Speaking of support, Radio Free Vermont, who won a decision against the FCC, is asking for donations to keep the station going. The local TV stations and area newspapers have blacklisted RFV since they won the decision; Monty James Butterfield has been paying for everything out of his pocket to run the station, aided a little by advertiser support. More support is needed to keep the station on the air. If none is forthcoming, RFV will shut down by March 31. Please contact RFV via e-mail at: rfv@sover.net for info on how to contribute. DON'T LET THOSE DOWN WHO HAVE FOUGHT FOR YOUR RIGHT TO BROADCAST!

Lastly, I have not seen any more news at this point about LPFM and the FCC's efforts to open the band for such; keep contacting your Congressmen!!!

MOBILE FM? Yes, it has been asked before! What would be needed is a mobile studio that runs off of 12 volts DC (or retrofitted for such). If a mic for the driver or radio personality is to be used, get something that has some noise-canceling qualities; maybe a headset? Nonetheless, the output of the transmitter ought to be coupled to a 1/4-wave antenna in the middle of the

vehicle's roof. A simple whip adapter screwed into a small magnetic mount would do, with the proper length cut for the operating frequency. I can never seem to remember the direct equation, but divide 468 by the frequency, then multiply by 12 to get the total length in inches of your element. Example: 468 divided by 96.5, multiplied by 12 equals 58.2 inches. One op mentioned he would put stickers on all sides of the vehicle advertising the frequency in hopes all around him would tune in. If anyone tries this or is doing it, please let me know!

VISIT FROM A PIRATE! What a delight it was to be visited by the operator of the former pirate Anteater Radio! I say "former" because the op has all but stopped broadcasting, having come off the road. To be sure, when I was in his mobile studio, he fired up the Icom IC-735 and relayed Radio Tornado on 6955!

Anteater Radio has, to date, relayed about 32 stations, six of which were his own! He came upon the name "anteater" due to the set-back axle design of the trucks he drove at the time, giving the appearance of a droopy nose like the Kenworth T600 and others. Being in the trucking industry since June 1975, I thought I had seen it all!

The reason I mention Anteater Radio was 1) his gracious visit and insight into operating mobile, and 2) the fact he used a Ramsey FM25 at the Kulpville Winterfest in conjunction with shortwave equipment! Also, he's found a good mobile antenna to use is the Hustler RM40S with a "super coil" design. This can handle 1000 watts intermittent, but handles 100 watts from the Icom without a sweat. While previously using a standard RM40, road salt worked it's way into the coil, causing it to catch fire! He has since used coax seal on the RM40S.

Yes, I know shortwave is for the other columns, but humor my drift- it was a delightful day we had visiting together, eating seafood down at Mobile Bay and talking radio! This was a "first" for me and I hope not a "last"! I'm sorry the visit had to end, due to my having to open up church & run Sound & he had to continue down the road....I'll be looking for other visits!

With that, I'll say "Adios!" Keep up the good work, all you micro-casters and supporters of such! And thanks again to those of you who support this column! de Bud

This month we feature a special addition to **Micro'casting** from a guest columnist in Germany:

Micro'casting in Germany

by Bjoern Quaack

Microcasting has a long tradition in Germany. The first case I heard about took place in early 1968. Four schoolboys from a Munich suburb played beat music and called their pirate operation Radio Moosach. On March 18, 1968 after 44 days of broadcasting, the station was silenced by the German Bundespost. A one watt transmitter used for 101.5 MHz was confiscated and so were the 62 records the kids owned. There have been many examples of FM piracy since, far too many to

mention them all. Let me just name a few which have been around in the 1990s to demonstrate the spectrum of what is on the bands. Since 1972 Radio RTN has been serving a small town in Northern Germany, in recent years with one or two Sunday morning broadcasts a month. Programmes consist of both chart tracks, oldies and folk music. Operator Rolf Kern uses a Dutch-made 25 watt stereo tx, usually with just 10 watts and in mono.

Radio Fantasy near Nuremberg has chosen a different technique of broadcasting. That station operates a wireless microphone as a tx. Tuned up from its regular 1.5 to 12 volts coverage increases up to a radius of a few miles. Some of these mikes have been sold (price is 40 DEM) to other stations including International Music Radio, Radio Stardust, and Radio Flamingo. Shortwave listeners might have come across these names, too, as those pirates normally focus on international broadcasting.

The 1980s saw hundreds of FM pirates appear in North Western Germany, close to the Dutch border and sounding much like their counterparts from Holland. These stations devote their airtime to folk and Schlager, a German type of easy listening music, plus listeners' dedications and local chat. Almost every village had a station of its own, some even several. After continuous busts the scene has dried up, but there are a few left including Radio Malaga (near Papenburg) and Radio Am Meer Land (occasionally on 103.7 MHz with 40 watts). There are more "neighborhood" radios, all with low power and irregular transmissions.

In a small town near Cologne, Radio Central used to put out mainstream pop music shows on a regular weekend schedule for several years until July 1995 when the station was busted. In the greater Duesseldorf area a dozen pirates have appeared since 1979 including City FM which ran a 1 watt 24 hour a day service for several months last year with nonstop music and jingles mixed by computer automation. Over Christmas the station used a 1.5 kilowatt booster for a few days on 97.2 MHz which makes it Germany's most powerful FM pirate. City FM was featured on Deutsche Welle TV in October last year and suffered a second bust November 30th, 1998.

The majority of local FM stations play music and sound pretty much like commercial radio. Still there are some clandestine stations to mention, all left wing such as Radio Back Datt from Cologne with a series of 14 short programmes in early 1991 to protest against the Gulf War. In Berlin where about 10 political pirates made it to the airwaves since 1975 Radio P continues on an irregular basis. That station had its heydays in the early 90s with extensive broadcasts supporting the squatter scene from Prenzlauer Berg, a district in the East of the capital, just after the Wall was turned down. Now part of the Radio P staff has become involved in Berlin's public access channel distributed by cable.

To sum it up, for quite a few stations low powered broadcasts to their local community was a starting point to come up with something bigger, making the move from microcasting to macrocasting.

Addresses (where known):

- Radio RTN, Postfach 220342, 42373 Wuppertal, Germany
- Radio Fantasy, Postfach 1137, 96118 Bischberg, Germany (e-mails to radio.fantasy@gmx.de)
- International Music Radio, Postfach 1951, 79554 Weil am Rhein, Germany (e-mails to wechlin@t-online.de)
- Radio Stardust, Postfach 220342, 42373 Wuppertal, Germany (e-mails to rsi@andshut.org)
- Radio Flamingo, Postfach 1951, 79554 Weil am Rhein, Germany
- City FM, Östra Porten 29, 44254 Ytterby, Sweden (e-mails to cityfm@aol.com)
- Radio Am Meer Land, Postfach 520112, 44207 Dortmund, Germany

Covert Comms

By Tom Severt

305 Granby Street Frontenac, KS 66763-2440 Phone/Fax: 316-231-0228
tmsevert@fament.com

Welcome again to Covert Comms, a column dedicated to the mystery of numbers stations and other unusual signals heard on the HF bands.

As you can see this month I have a ton of loggings, so I'll get right to them.

3292 - Atencion/V2 0200 Tue 2/16/99 YL/SS 5FG in progress. (JM)
3389 - V2 0103 AM (In tfc - Tue) 19 Jan 99 (JPL)
3819 - M76 Sun 2/7/99 1750 G777 De Bwju Qtc 83 34 = (GD)
4016.5 - ANDUWRIGMT/M8 0300 Monday 2/15/99 5L/F/G in progress. (JM)
4028 - V2 1104 AM (In tfc - Mon) 18 Jan 99 (JPL)
4035 - Atencion/V2 0400 Monday 2/15/99 YL/SS rptg A 93031 58552 00841 5FG. (JM)
4174 - Atencion/V2 0300 Monday 2/15/99 YL/SS 5FG in progress. (JM)
4180 - M3 Sun 2/7/99 1630 287/00 Repeat Daily (GD)
4685 - M13 Sun 2/7/99 2130 411 = 198 22 = (GD)
4959 - M10 Sun 2/7/99 1630 555x3 571x3 35 532x3 71 (GD)
5020 - M10E Sun 1/17/99 1000 111x3 63308x3 20 26270x3 18 (GD)
5046 - TCS/E5 0015 USB (In tfc - Mon - Probably // of 6440 sked) 18 Jan 99 (JPL)
5435 - MOSSAD/E10 0300 Tue 2/16/99 YL/EE rptg ART2 then down. (JM)
5820//7918 - MOSSAD/E10 0200 Wed 2/3/99 YL/EE rptg YHF2 then down. (JM)
5946 - M10 Sun 2/7/99 1920 555x3 968x3 18 652x3 24 (GD)
6270//7760 - MOSSAD/E10 0100 Tue 2/2/99 YL/SS rptg ULX 5LG. (JM)
6440 - TCS/E5 0014 USB (In tfc - Mon - Probably // of 5046 sked) 18 Jan 99 (JPL)
6768 - Atencion/V2 0400 Monday 2/15/99 YL/SS rptg A 53551 95853 35853 5FG. (JM)
6855 - Atencion/V2 0300 Monday 2/15/99 YL/SS 5FG in progress. (JM)
6984 - V2 1103 AM (In tfc - Thurs) 21 Jan 99 (JPL)
6778 - Atencion/V2 0100 Tue 2/2/99 YL/SS w/transmitter problems distorting bdcst. JM
7580 - V2 1505 AM (In tfc - Sun) 17 Jan 99 (JPL)
7600//10597 - TCS/E5 1500 Tue 2/2/99 YL/EE rptg 360 Count 111 3/2FG. (JM)
7755//8464//10426 - LP/E3 1500 Tue 2/16/99 YL/EE rptg 6806_ 5FGx2. Extremely weak. (JM)
7918 - MOSSAD/E10 0200 Tue 2/16/99 YL/EE rptg YHF 5LG. (JM)
8300 - "New Star" YL/CC 4F station in AM on Wed 01/20/99 at 1330. New Star has good signals lately from 1200-1500 on this frequency. (TS)
8307 - M23 Sun 1/17/99 1400 579 R10 // 9285 (GD)
8988 - unid 0306 Tue 2/16/99 random hand-sent CW number/letter string w/BT at end. A brief pause, then VVV de K and into a digital mode at :12. (JM)
9024 - Atencion/V2 (old version) 0200 Wed 2/3/99 YL/SS 5FG in progress. Two final at :06 then A 616/02 and 02/45 and back into 5FG. Down at :13 w/two final. (JM)
10426 - LP/E3 2000 USB 30856 (Sat) 13 Feb 99 (JPL)
10236 - Atencion/V2 0300 Monday 2/15/99 YL/SS 5FG in progress. Note new frequency - 6826 silent; most likely a replacement. (JM)
10237 - M8 Sun 2/7/99 0800 03953 99091 25961 (GD)
11545//13375//15682 LP/E3 1600 Tue 2/2/99 YL/EE rptg 30856 5FGx2. (JM)
11545//14487//16084 LP/E3 1500 Wed 2/3/99 YL/EE rptg 72977 5FGx2. (JM)
12300.5//14421 - TCS/V5 0300 Tue 2/2/99 YL/SS rptg 286 Grupo 195 3/2FG. (JM)
13375//15682 - LP/E3 1600 Tue 2/16/99 YL/EE rptg 66051 5FGx2. (JM)
17499//22108 - Cherry Ripe/E4 0000 Tue 2/2/99 extremely weak - only tune audible. (JM)

Contributors: GD - Guy Denman, England; JPL - Jean-Paul LeBlanc, Canada; JM - John Maky, AR; TS - Tom Severt, KS.

If you would like your loggings included, please send them to me at the address at the top of the page. See you in Kulpville.

The Presidents Page

Pat Murphy - P.O. Box 12112 - Norfolk, VA 23541

By the time you read this, Winterfest will be under way in Kulpville, PA. If you couldn't make it this year, plan on next year.

PRESIDENT SAYS: "Time for a new President"

It has been a ball, being the President of the ACE for the past two years, and meeting and corresponding with our many members has been rewarding and interesting but in the interest of seeing our club grow, its time for a new President.

I thought long and hard about this, but, my job & family responsibilities have multiplied over the past year and if I don't get a new President pretty soon, I'm afraid the newsletter will suffer. So I'll open the floor for nominations or better yet, volunteers. If you've been a member in good standing and would like to be the President, keep track of the membership database, collect the dues and help put the Newsletter out each month, contact me and we'll discuss it.

Here's how we put the ACE out each month. Steve Rogovich has the talented columnist's e-mail their columns to him on the 20th of each month. He puts them together on printed pages so I can take them to the printer. I layout the front page and the Presidents page on my computer, put that together with what Steve has printed and take them to the printer. I pick up the finished newsletters from the printer, when their ready, pay for them, take them home, put the labels and stamps on them and put them in the mail. I also pick up the renewals and inquiries from the Post Office box and keep the membership database. Steve also helps me keep the database straight. Steve is actually the brains of the Operation but I get all the glory!

I've done it for two years and if it weren't for my kids being teenagers and the job duties multiplying, I'd still be happy to do it, but I've got enough on my hands right now and think its time for some new blood to bring some new idea's to the club. Steve and I came into this with some idea's that we think we've accomplished. We got an Internet Website, Club T-Shirts, we got a nice clean newsletter, thanks to Steve Rogovich and all his hard work, and we got it out early each month, so we got some goals accomplished that we had set out to meet. Thank you for the opportunity to be the President and I hope you will remember me in your will. Send me your name and phone number and the best time to reach you if you'd like to be the President of our Worldwide Radio listening club. I think you'll find it to be rewarding and fun.

This monthly report is made possible by:

Steve Rogovich, Managing Editor, Mary & Inez @ Randy Wright Printing, Christen Kellogg, Tara, your dedicated columnist's, Ivan Stang, D.B. Cooper, the vast intelligent membership of this renowned organization and void where prohibited by the ghost of J.J. Freeman and his heirs. All seats reserved, not to be used with any other hobby magazine of equal value. Always have a Quarter in your pocket so you can call home, and for Gods sake wear clean underwear!

VISIT THE ACE WEBSITE

www.frn.net/ace/

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 12112, Norfolk, VA 23541-0112

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

President and Publisher.....Pat Murphy, POB 12112, Norfolk, VA 23541-0112
Managing Editor.....Steve Rogovich, steve@infi.net

Our Editors...

Veried Response.....John Arthur, 7994 Route 19 Belfast, NY 14711-8702
Dialogs.....Joe Filipkowski, 28 Mill Wheel Road Warwick, RI 02886-8453
Clandestine Profile....George Zeller, 3492 W 123rd Street Cleveland, OH 44111-3553

Feature Editors...

Covert Comms.....Tom Severt, 305 Granby Street Frontenac, KS 66763-2440
Micro-casting.....Bud Stacey, PO Box 907 Satsuma, AL 36572-0907

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